

REMARKS

By this Amendment, the specification and claims 1 and 3 are amended and claims 5-23 are added. Accordingly, claims 1-23 are pending in this application. Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Gilman in the October 22 personal interview.

I. Formal Matters

The specification is amended to replace the paragraph beginning on page 32 line 14, to correct an informality.

II. The Claims Define Allowable Subject Matter

A. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §112

The Office Action rejects claims 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. It is respectfully requested that claim 1 as amended is definite and particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph is respectfully requested.

B. Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office Action rejects claims 1-4 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as unpatentable over Tanaka (U.S. Patent No. 5,724,730). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

It is respectfully submitted that Tanaka fails to disclose or teach all of the features recited in the independent claims.

In particular, it is respectfully submitted that Tanaka fails to disclose or teach the feature wherein the connecting wiring of a housing in which an electronic circuit board includes electronic parts that are mounted on a substrate, as recited in amended claims 1 and 3, and new claims 10 and 13. Instead, Tanaka relates to a method and structure for a

conductive connecting part of a flat cable. Furthermore, Tanaka relates to a connector. Thus, Tanaka does not disclose an electric circuit board including electronic parts that are mounted on a substrate in the housing.

It is respectfully submitted that since claims 2 and 4 depend from claims 1 and 3 respectively, that these claims are allowable at least for the same reasons as claims 1 and 3.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102 is respectfully requested.

C. New Claims

It is respectfully submitted that Tanaka fails to disclose or suggest all of the features recited in new claims 5-9, 11, 12 and 14-23, at least for the reasons discussed above with respect to the independent claims from which they depend, as well as for the following reasons.

With regards to claims 5, 20 and 22, Tanaka fails to disclose or suggest the feature that the harness is attached to the housing at opposite end portions. Support for these claims is found at least in Fig. 6B and page 32, lines 23-25 of the specification. Instead, Tanaka merely discloses that the wires 6 are held within the insulating portion 19 and attached at one end.

With regards to claims 6, 8, 21 and 23, Tanaka fails to disclose or suggest the feature that the harness is electrically connected at one end to an electronic circuit substrate that is within the housing. Support for these claims is found at least in Fig. 6B and page 34, lines 9-17 of the specification. Instead, Tanaka merely discloses that the relay wires 6 are welded to the conductors 9. See e.g., Tanaka, col. 3, lines 42- 54.

With regards to claims 10 and 13 and the respective dependent claims, Tanaka fails to disclose or suggest the feature that the bus bar and the housing are molded integrally.

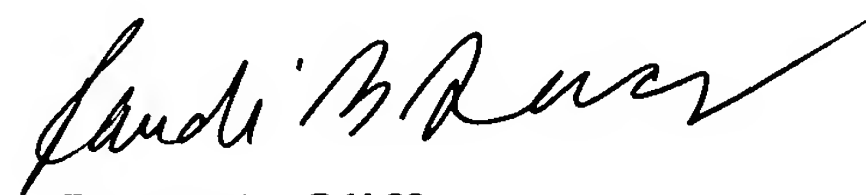
Support for these claims is found at least in Figs. 5A and 5B, and page 25, line 23-page 26, line 120.

III. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-23 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Randi B. Isaacs
Registration No. 56,046

JAO:RBI/brc

Attachment:
Amendment Transmittal

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OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 19928
Alexandria, Virginia 22320
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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